

3/5/2025

Chair Neron, Vice Chairs McIntire and Dobson, and Members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Kristen Allen, I work for North Clackamas School District, where besides working as a media tech, I also represent all instructional staff for our OSEA Chapter 71. I have worked for the school district for eight years after working as a counselor and clinical supervisor for over 20 years in the nonprofit sector. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 3357.

Classified staff are being injured daily - sometimes several times throughout the day. They are not given effective and meaningful training to support our most vulnerable students or protect themselves. For example, one of our staff was using district approved strategies to de-escalate a student. She was punched in the face hard enough to break her nose. She had to escort herself and the student to attend to her wound. For the next two hours she continued to supervise this escalated student while holding an ice pack to her nose, because we did not have enough trained staff available, and our administrator was in meetings. She was not given time to fill out an incident report or have another staff assist her.

I believe if we had the data in place, we could ensure proper staffing and effective training for staff to keep themselves and students safe. HB 3357 creates an avenue to rectify the crisis of safety and learning in our schools. That is why I urge an aye vote on HB 3357.

Sincerely,

Kristen Allen

North Clackamas School District